## Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs Media Release

Director John E. Lee Deputy Director Lourdes E. Alvarado-Ramos

Heidi Audette Communications Director (360) 725-2154 – office (360) 791-8966 – cell heidia@dva.wa.gov http://www.dva.wa.gov



## For Immediate Release

Date: June 5, 2012

Contact: WDVA - Heidi Audette, 360-725-2154 or

Walla Walla VAMC - Linda Wondra, 509-301-1303

WALLA WALLA – The veterans' community and public are invited to attend a Community Meeting on June 21, 2012, to learn about the State Veterans Home which will be built on the campus of the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center in Walla Walla.

"We are so excited to invite our community partners in to see how far we've come on plans for the Walla Walla State Veterans Home! Not only will you hear about the homelike design features being incorporated into this project, you will also be able to walk through a room mock-up to get a feel for how the rooms will be laid out," said John E. Lee, director of the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs.

The meeting will be held at the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center in the Theater (Bldg. 78) from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The Theater is located at 77 Wainwright Dr., Walla Walla.

The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) will be joined by officials from the Walla Walla VA Medical Center and NBBJ, the architect and engineering firm selected to conduct the design.

Funding for this project was included in the Capital Budget during the 2012 Legislative Session, which advances WDVA's grant application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs State Homes Construction Grant Program into Priority Group 1 for federal funding consideration this fall.

During the meeting, attendees will learn about the State Veterans Home's design and the site assessment work that is currently underway. The veterans' community and public will also have the opportunity to ask questions.

There will be a resident room mock-up available for viewing in the Walla Walla VAMC Theater June 18, 2012 through June 22, 2012 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Please call Linda Wondra, Public Affairs Officer, at 509-301-1303 for viewing, or check in at the Executive Office in the basement of the Theater Bldg.

###